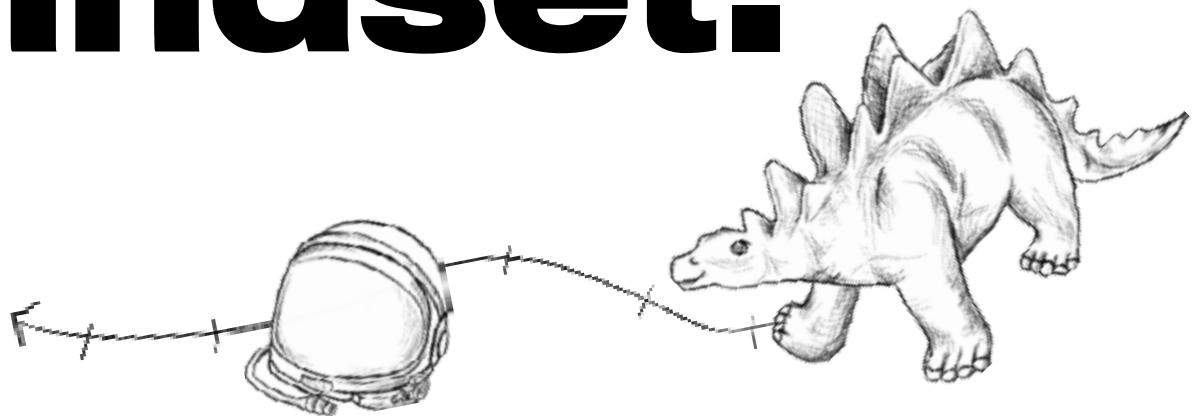


Part 02

A Futurist Mindset.



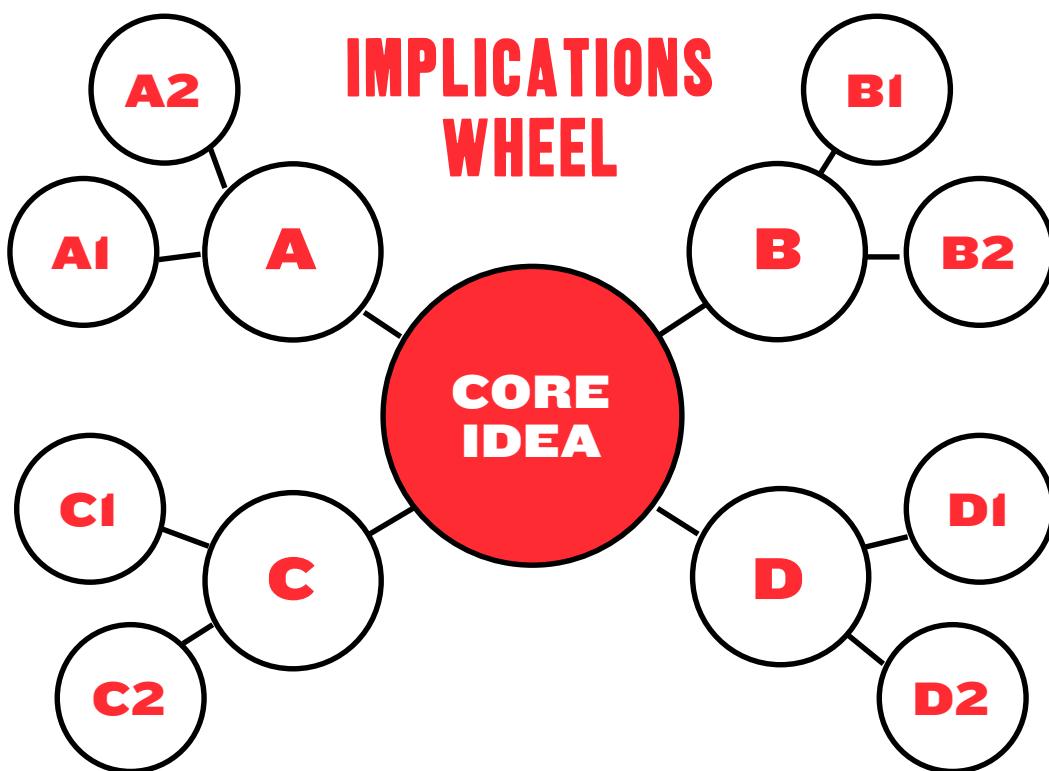
Talk transcript, and accompanying activities, originally performed by Matthew Manos at the first-ever **Apple Distinguished Schools Virtual Global Meeting** in July, 2020.

A Futurist Mindset

When we assume a futurist mindset, one of the core things for us to understand is that our job is to understand the implications of our ideas.

The alternative futures methodology that we discussed in “**The Future Does Not Exist**” (Time-Machine_Bonus-01.pdf) is one way to do that. It allows us to see our ideas through four critical lenses: growth, collapse, constraint, and transformation. In doing so, we do not assume one singular future, and instead prepare ourselves for multiple outcomes and realities.

Another great tool for understanding the implications of our ideas is the Implications Wheel by Joel Barker.



To use this method, begin by putting your core idea in the center of the diagram. As you move away from that circle into these outer rings, you are reflecting on the range of implications that idea might have. It's important to note that these can be positive or negative implications.

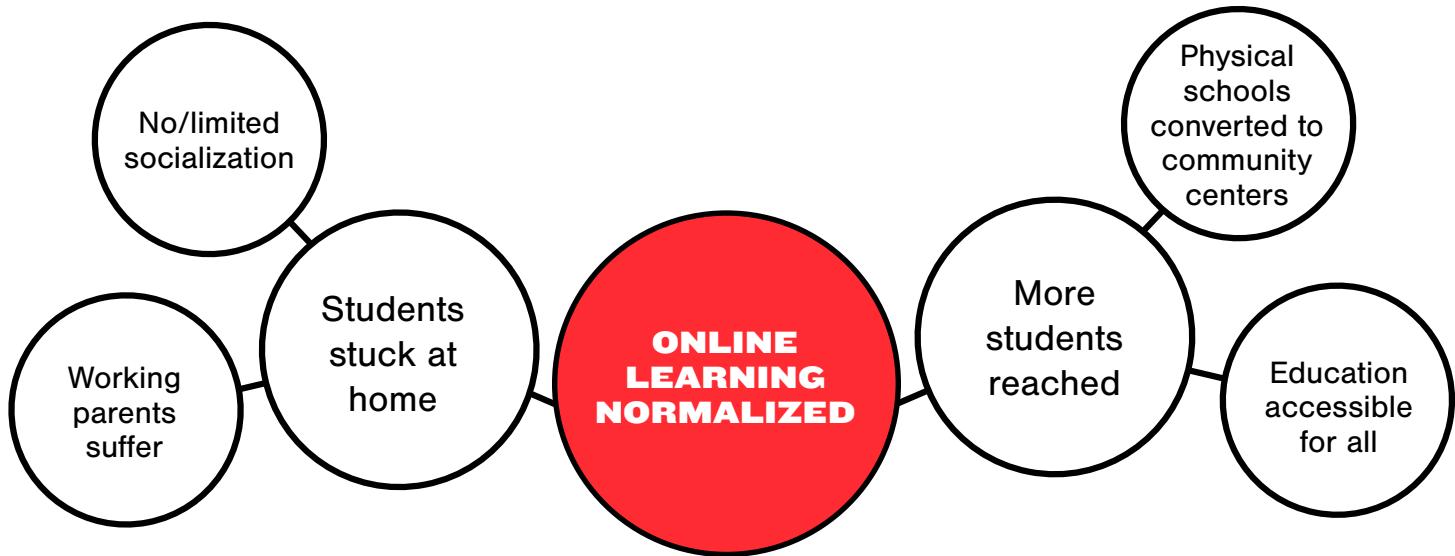
Implications Wheel: <https://www.implicationswheel.com/>

Learn more about the Implications Wheel by Joel Barker by visiting his website. It is packed with helpful resources and videos.

You can see there are multiple tiers of this to allow you to reflect deeply on not just the implications, but the implications of those implications. This tool is designed not to scare you away from your core idea, but to give you the information you need to further refine and develop it. To “future proof it”.

If you’re ever feeling stuck, remember to think of the stakeholders. What is the most important thing for them?

Here’s a quick example, using “Online Learning Normalized” as the starting point.



Futures thinking is a continuous practice. Futures thinking is never a one-and-done approach. Why? Futures are full of surprises.

Things change constantly. As Tom Atlee says “things are getting better and better and worse and worse, faster and faster, simultaneously.”

As a result, futures thinking needs to be a continuous practice. We need to see innovation as a constant in our work, and make it part of our DNA.

Remember... the future does not exist. We can only ever be in the present. The future is just a symbol for the repercussions of our daily actions.

And so I leave you with this question:

What will you do today, to make tomorrow better?

Thank you.